

THE PIOCHE RECORD

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Auditor Examines County Records

At an expense to the county of \$295, W. N. Whitmore completed early in the week an audit of the books of the county officers covering the period of July 1, 1914 to February 29, 1916. The report was filed with the county commissioners last Monday and accepted by that body.

Introductory to his detailed statement, Mr. Whitmore said: "There is little comment required on the respective offices. All moneys due your county that have been collected from various sources have been duly paid into your county treasurer, and record of such collections shown by said official."

"It is my recommendation to your honorable board that any subsequent audits that be made, that you authorize the accountant to check the books as to income and collections of your Caliente water supply system. From this source considerable revenue is derived, but without checking the books of the system, no correct idea can be given, whether or not the total revenue properly collectible, has been collected or remitted to your county treasurer, and as long as this is an adjunct of your county, the checking of the books of this system should properly come under the audit of the county."

The auditor suggested an improvement in the manner of collecting fees in some of the offices and in the manner of drawing warrants for postage. He also recommended the purchase of a fee book such as is generally used in other counties.

Mr. Whitmore gave a very complete tabulated statement of the finances of the county and gives much interesting information from which the following is taken:

The taxable valuation of property in the county in 1914 was \$1,261,000, from which taxes to the amount of \$73,735.35 were charged against taxpayers. Of this amount \$39,470.96 was collected in the first installment; while the taxes delinquent were \$797.79; Poll taxes to the amount of \$645 were charged on the tax roll during the year 1914.

In 1915 the assessed valuation was \$5,489,132 and the total taxes amounted to \$71,048.85. Of this sum \$37,943.76 was collected in the first installment; \$32,609.91 in the second installment; while the delinquent taxes amounted to \$495.05. The amount of poll taxes charged on the roll in 1915 was \$642.

The statement of income and disbursements during the period covered by the audit shows that \$5,766.75 was collected from general licenses; \$1,813.40 from grazing licenses; \$297 from game licenses; \$3,187.50 from state liquor licenses; \$5 from engineer's licenses. Total \$11,069.65.

From taxation: Real and personal property tax, \$111,170.42; poll tax \$1,281; bull on tax (assessor), \$2,379.73; poll tax (assessor), \$1,752; per property tax (assessor), \$4,399.47; delinquent taxes, (tax receiver), \$2,756.64. Total, \$123,739.32.

From fees: Sheriff's office, \$384.79; recorder's office, \$1,422.60; clerk's office, \$1,010.40. Total, \$2,817.79.

Miscellaneous: Apportionment of state school funds, \$19,519.86; justice court fees, \$90.50; Caliente water supply, \$2,458.75; sale of county property, \$53.65; office rental, \$120; refund on bonds, \$16,082.66; sale of school property, \$22.50; refunded money, \$2,666.98. Total, \$41,014.90.

Total income July 1, 1914, to February 29, 1916, \$178,661.66.

DISBURSEMENTS

The items of disbursement are summed up to the following:

General county road fund, \$3,588.48
General county fund, \$9,591.70
Current expense fund, \$4,497.06
Contingent fund, \$5,269.31
Indigent fund, \$4,037.86
Salary fund, \$20,430.13

Judge's salary fund, \$2,100.72
State fund, \$43,115.64
Interest fund, \$26,080.00
Game and fish preservation fund \$361.65

Jury fund, \$69.90
Sheep commission fund, \$252.77
Caliente water supply fund, \$2,568.57

Pioche fire fund, \$975.18
General school fund, \$219.46
District school fund, \$41,811.27
High school fund, \$10,780.67
Pioche school sinking fund, \$7,242.15

Pioche school interest fund, \$1,088.07
Panaca school sinking fund, \$38.51
Panaca school interest fund, \$29.36
Caliente water supply bond \$1,700.00
Caliente water supply interest fund \$210.00

Callente town fund, \$10.00
Deducting underpayment on warrant No. 5626 to state treasurer of \$5.26, leaves the amount of total dis-

Prince Con. Posts Double Dividend

The directors of the Prince Consolidated Mining & Smelting company met in Salt Lake last Friday afternoon and, as indicated would be the case in a previous issue of the Record, the regular quarterly dividend of \$25,000 was posted; also an extra dividend of \$25,000, which is payable to shareholders the first of the coming month. With these distributions, the company will have divided profits among shareholders since June of last year a total of \$200,000.

Conditions at the Prince mine have never been as encouraging as they are at the present time. The company has never had so much ore actually in sight and no one knows to what depth the immense bodies of ore go; that must be demonstrated by future developments. Meanwhile shipments are being made on the basis of 550 tons per day.

The management of the company has announced that all of the details in reference to the construction of the proposed mill at Bullionville have been worked out and that the actual construction of the mill plant will begin within the next thirty days. Manager M. C. Godbe and Engineer C. F. Sherwood left for Salt Lake Thursday afternoon and before returning the contracts for the machinery and building material will have been let. The plant is designed to treat 200 tons of ore per day and is intended wholly for the retreatment of the tailings at Bullionville and Dry valley. The ore will be reground, and floated, followed by cyanidation of the tailings.

Meanwhile, a series of metallurgical tests will be conducted on Prince mine ores to determine the most feasible method to save the zinc contents of the ore, valued at from \$12 to \$15 per ton, which under present methods is wholly lost to the company. So far, it is understood, tests made along these lines have proved very encouraging and if the plan is worked out successfully will result in the erection of another mill, which would be at them in.

Calienteans are much interested in the work being done at the Eastern mine south of town by J. W. Taylor and associates. They have recently completed the construction of a large office, assay office, bunk and boarding houses. Plans for the proposed mill have been drawn and adopted and it is expected that the actual building of the plant will be started within the next few weeks.

The opening of the big gold property will mean much to Caliente in a business way and will contribute in a large way to the general prosperity of the county.

Politics are beginning to absorb interest in this town and at least two, and possibly three well known citizens of Pahrangat valley have aspirations in the direction of the sheriff's office. Friends of John Richard assert that he would accept the Democratic nomination at the hands of the convention to be held next September; while Omar Stewart's friends likewise assert that he might be induced to try for the nomination, he also being a Democrat. The third man mentioned is Sid Pace of Alamo, who is a brother of Will Pace of the Caliente Mercantile company. Pace is a Republican. All three mentioned are good citizens and either one of them is capable of fulfilling the duties of the office. With Roy Orr of Pioche, C. P. Christensen of Pioche and Joe Hollinger of Urine, makes six persons who have thus far been mentioned for the sheriff's job.

**COMMISSIONERS OFFER
FIFTY DOLLAR REWARD**

E. C. D. Marriage appeared before the board of county commissioners last Monday and complained that his valuable dog had been poisoned. He stated also that numerous canine had met death in the very same manner during the past few months and asked the board to take some steps toward the protection of dogs in the future. After giving the matter due consideration the board adopted a resolution offering a standing reward of \$50 for the arrest and conviction of any one resorting to such practices.

Poison has been put out on numerous occasions during the past winter Mr. Marriage said possibly to destroy some of the useless curs running about town; but almost invariably dogs of some value have been the victims.

**ADOPT RESOLUTION
PROTECTING ELK**

Lincoln county, through its board of county commissioners, has proposed to protect the herd of elk which Uncle Sam is willing to send to Nevada, provided that ample protection is assured by the state and county authorities. Accordingly the commissioners adopted a resolution to the effect that it will be unlawful to kill any elk within the confines of this county for the next ten years. Similar action is being taken in other counties so now it looks as if Uncle Sam's herd will come to Nevada.

**DR. MARCO GETS
BIG COPPER RETURNS**

CALIENTE, Nevada, March 10.—Dr. L. Marco has firmly believed for some months past that he has come into the possession of a copper bonanza down near the Colorado river in Arizona and recent developments tend to confirm that belief. For several weeks he has busied himself in getting out a shipment of this product, battling with snow and muddy roads to get it over the 200 mile wagon haul to Modena, Utah, where it was loaded into cars and the Salt Lake route and shipped to

The doctor a few days ago received the returns from the first car shipped, the lot averaging 27.03 per cent copper and 4 ounces silver which prevailing under the present high price of metals brought returns of \$118.74 per ton.

Professionally, Doc Marco is a dentist—and a good one. He is also a live wire anywhere he is put and always boosting for the country in

which he lives. Like a good many others, he sees a wonderful future for Lincoln county and while he is not of the opinion that a person is compelled to go out of the county to find a good mine; yet he did go out to get his copper proposition and it might be well to add in explanation that it was only by an accident that he was lured to the banks of the Colorado. He made a professional trip to the Muddy valley last fall and ran across a son of Sweden who came to him with bad teeth to fix. As Joe poked away at a cavity in the Swede's molar, he talked mines between times; but was minus the silver to start things a going; so he made a bargain that if Marco would call the dental bill square and put up enough money to get out the first car of ore, a half interest in the copper mine was his. The dentist became interested, and drove his Ford to the scene. One look was enough; he then gave the patient a receipt for his dental bill and at once entered into a partnership, started things moving and it is needless to say that Doc will keep moving while copper is up to the present high notch.

**SAGE BRUSH CAMP
TO SAVE POTASH**

After having conducted extensive experiments in the production and extraction of sage brush ashes, Mr. Jack Strauss has detailed Messrs. Jurgens and Austerman to a month's stay at Delmues's ranch to make preliminary experiments on a commercial scale. He will follow in a few days.

The results of the tests have proven entirely satisfactory and the feasibility of a profitable manufacture of variegated potash compounds from the ashes of sage brush and several other indigenous plants is assured, at least while present high prices for these products prevail.

There are some uses in which potassium compounds can not be substituted by the use of sodium. This is mainly the case in fertilizer salt especially in those quite indispensable in the cotton growing states.

Therefore a good market for these products is absolutely assured, at least as long as the competition of the German mineral product is not to be contended with.

Mr. Strauss intends after his return to erect an extraction plant capable of handling about 4 tons of ashes per day and will then be in the position to purchase ashes at prices which presumably will insure a very fair income to those who may decide to engage in the burning of sage brush.

Mrs. W. J. Campbell and children spent a couple of days in Panaca this week, having been called there on account of the illness of her sister, Miss Jane Heaps, who left Monday for Salt Lake to receive medical aid. She was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Hammond of Eagle valley.

Mrs. Robb of the Prince mine has returned from a visit with relatives in Michigan.

Commissioners Fix This Years Tax Rate

MINES AND MINING

Mining companies of Utah in the year just ended distributed to their stockholders a total in cash dividends of \$10,039,151.

The miners of Montana are working full time and turning out every ounce of ore they can and the smelters are working twenty-four hours a day.

New transportation and treatment records by the Rochester Mines company in the Rochester district have shown in February in a whirlwind of activity.

The payroll in Butte last month was approximately \$5,500,000. Business is good throughout Montana and everybody is happy, regardless of the severe weather.

Shipments of ore from the mines of Park City Utah, last week totaled 1,075 tons, valued at \$40,000. This is compared with 1,231 tons the preceding week.

The total value of minerals mined in 1915 in Idaho amounted to \$38,000,000 and afforded net profits of fully \$9,000,000, according to State Mines Inspector Robert N. Bell.

Colton, in southeastern Utah may get an ozokerite milling plant, according to advices received in Salt Lake by associates of L. V. Shearer, who is now east on a business trip.

Development of the agricultural and mining resources of the Uintah basin will come within the next three years whether or not a railroad is built into that section, it is predicted.

Leasers down from the upper old workings on the Albion report that they are steadily taking out shipping grades of ore, according to word received at the Salt Lake headquarters of the company.

Another operating lease is about to be started on the Ophongo at Tintic. This will make three active leases already started on this little mine with its \$71,000 dividend record and without an assessment.

At Park City, Utah the big mines are carrying on the most comprehensive systems of mining and prospecting ever witnessed in the wonderful old camp, with its \$200,000,000 production record and \$10,000,000 dividend credits.

As the result of the completion of the crosscut from the 85-foot level of the shaft of the United States Smelting, Refining & Mining company at Fortuna, Utah, superintendent Clemens believes he is in a large zone of low-grade milling gold ore.

Stockholders of the Wilbert Mining company are in receipt of dividend checks covering a distribution of \$10,000. This is 1 cent a share. It is understood it leaves \$25,000 to \$30,000 cash in the treasury. The property is near Arco, Idaho.

Shipments of ore from the Tintic mine last week make up a total of 123 carloads. These are estimated at 6,150 tons, valued at \$155,000. It is compared with seventy-six cars the previous week, when the camp was hampered by deep snows.

The three great camps of the state of Utah, Bingham, Tintic and Park City, are in the zenith of their prosperity. They are employing more men, paying higher wages and producing more first class ore and concentrates than ever before.

It has been rumored for some time that the sale of the old Miller mine in American Fork is under consideration, and that as soon as an examination can be made it will likely be consummated. It is said that one crowd took \$750,000 and that in early days it produced \$1,500,000 more.

After some interference on account of the big snowstorm which tied up things in southern Nevada as well as at practically all Utah mining camps, the Prince Consolidated is again shipping near its normal of between 400 and 500 tons of ore daily to the Utah smelters.

Profits of the American copper producing companies in the year 1916 are so far beyond all records that a heavy burden is placed on any conservative statistician who labors to avoid the taint of sensationalism. It is estimated that American Copper companies will earn \$300,000,000 net profits in 1916.

With the expectation that the demands of the war alone will add \$25,000,000 to the value of Utah's metal output in 1916, production has taken a stride quite unusual in January and early in February, proverbially a period of skimpy pay rolls. The total precious metal production for the year is expected to reach \$50,000,000 or even \$70,000,000.

N. B. Pryor of Kanosh and associates have struck it rich in the Ant-

The board of county commissioners met last Monday with all members present. Probably the most important business called up for consideration was the adoption of 1916 budget in which the estimated expenses of the county for the year is placed at \$61,600 and which amount must be raised by taxation in the following divisions:

Administrative division, \$20,150
Bond interest and redemption, \$16,000.

County graded schools, \$15,950
County high school, \$7,000
District Judge's salary, \$2,500.

After having agreed on the budget, next in order and probably of equal importance, was the fixing of the tax rate for the year 1916, which was indicated in the item in a previous issue of the Record would be the case, the general county rate will be slightly higher than the rate of last year. The advance is due principally to the fact that one-twentieth of the county's outstanding indebtedness fall due next year and provisions must be made to take care of the obligation. The comparative rate for this year and last are:

	1916	1915
Gen. county and state	\$1.486	\$1.30
Pioche school	\$2.436	\$2.00
Pioche town	\$2.726	\$2.45
Caliente school	\$1.636	\$2.00
Caliente town	\$1.966	\$2.10

Because of the crowded condition of the Pioche schools, the likelihood of purchasing more equipment and the making of improvements on the existing buildings, the board of trustees arranged to pay off \$7,000 of this debt, thus reducing the obligation to \$8,000.

PANACA PEOPLE WANT RESERVOIR RESTORED

Residents of Panaca have started a movement to restore the old reservoir just above the Delmues ranch which was relinquished to the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake railroad at the time the line was built through Condor canyon. They have taken the matter up with the railroad officials and a meeting with them is scheduled for April 24th at Salt Lake City. In event the plan materializes it will be necessary to abandon a portion of the railroad grade near Delmues and change the line so that the road bed would be above the reservoir site.

A good many Panaca residents have contended for sometime that the abandonment of the reservoir site a number of years ago was a serious mistake and it would appear from the foregoing that they are convinced of that fact. The reservoir could now be used to advantage to irrigate much good land in the foot hills surrounding and in the valley below Panaca.

The report comes from the Eagle and Blue Bell, in Tintic district, that the new \$30,000 electric hoist at the 1,700-foot main shaft has been installed and the machinery given a preliminary warming up and it has proven its efficiency for the heavy task before it.

The New York Stock exchange has admitted to the list the Kennecott Copper, 2,777,578 shares stock without nominal or par value and with authority to add 222,422 shares, making a total to be listed 3,000,000 shares.

lope mountains, fifty miles due west of Hinkley, according to latest reports. They have a group of claims in that vicinity that assay high in alumina, tungsten and potash and the surface showings on their claims have proven to have a higher percentage of potash in them than did the surface showings of the potash mines at Marysville.

It is reported from the Gilmore district that a strike of rich gold ore has been made in a new block of ground in the Pittsburgh-Idaho. This is some distance, but possibly on the same ore channel, where the Allie mine broke into sensational values about a year ago.

From Park City, Utah, come reports that the New Quincy work is making good progress in the raise which is directed for the limestone beds which correlate with the mineralized zones in the adjoining Daly-Judge and Daly West.